

Council on Postsecondary Education
February 3, 2003

Executive Summary

1. Are more Kentuckians ready for postsecondary education?

The P-16 Council met in December. Members reviewed a draft vision statement, action agenda, goals, and objectives and began a discussion of indicators to measure progress in creating a seamless system of education from pre-school through college. A first-year report on the research phase of the American Diploma Project was presented. In March, the P-16 Council will discuss this research with representatives from business, labor, and education from across the state. From those discussions, the P-16 Council will make recommendations to its constituent boards to ensure that high school graduates are prepared for work or college.

In other P-16 developments, the Kentucky Virtual University was approved by the Kentucky Department of Education as a provider of courses, library resources, and learning support for low-income students in low-achieving schools. This is an initiative of the federal *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*. The University of Louisville and the University of Kentucky hosted GEAR UP

Kentucky Expos last November to encourage low-income middle school students to plan for college. More than 1,700 seventh graders attended. Also, Kentucky is one of five states selected by The Education Trust to participate in a study of high school predictors of postsecondary success and specific experiences in high school and college that produce effective P-12 teachers.

A full report on the P-16 Council meeting and related initiatives begins on page 107.

The staff is finalizing the official fall 2002 enrollment data and will present updated results for Key Indicator 1.5 (number of high school students completing college-level work) at the council meeting.